

the two species only *S. armata* was represented in our collection, but judged it prudent to appeal for assistance to the great experience of Dr. Norman, who requests us to state that his Plymouth specimen, which by some unaccountable error was recorded as *S. frontalis*, proves on re-examination to be a female of *S. armata*. We have examined Mr. Garstang's specimen: it is a female of *S. armata*, showing characters which are fully covered by the range of variation in the examples of this species in our own collection. We further learn from Dr. Norman that a tube of *Siriella* received by him from this Laboratory as *S. frontalis* contains only *S. armata*. *S. frontalis* must therefore be erased for the present from the British list, since Dr. Norman now thinks that Gosse's *Mysis producta* is in all probability *S. armata*.

We are requested by Dr. Norman to state that his description of *S. frontalis* was drawn up from that of Sars compared with Adriatic specimens received from Dr. Claus. Its validity is therefore in no way impaired by the accidental insertion of an erroneous record of locality.

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Plymouth.

XXI.—On new small Mammals from South America.

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

Oryzomys bæops, sp. n.

Very similar externally to *O. laniger* and *O. niveipes*, but really allied only to the latter. Fur long, soft and woolly. General colour dull greyish brown, darker along the middle line of the back. Under surface silvery greyish, the hairs dull slate for their basal two thirds; no trace of the buffy or fulvous tone found in the other two species. Back of ears scarcely darker than general colour. Hands whitish above; feet pale brown. Tail rather longer than head and body, closely scaly, nearly naked, greyish brown, rather paler below.

Skull of the general type of that of *O. niveipes*, but with its anterior portion, from the front of the brain-case forwards, markedly shortened and more delicate; fronto-nasal profile quite flat, not convex; nasals short and narrow; interorbital region narrow, concave mesially, its edges faintly marked, neither rounded nor beaded; anterior zygoma-root narrow,

without projecting plate, very much as in *O. dryas*. Palatal foramina narrow, equally contracted posteriorly and anteriorly.

Dimensions of the type (an adult female, measured in skin):—

Head and body 118 millim.; tail 148; hind foot s. u. (wet) 23; ear (wet) 16.

Skull: back of interparietal to tip of nasals 27; greatest breadth 14.6; nasals 8.8×3 ; interorbital breadth 3.5; palatal foramina 5.1×1.9 ; upper molar series 4.7.

Hab. Pita R., above the Chillo Valley, Ecuador. Alt. 3500 metres.

Type B.M. no. 98. 8. 1. 7. Collected May 5, 1898, and presented by Consul L. Söderström.

This species is readily distinguished from *O. niveipes*, its only near ally, as also from the externally similar *O. laniger*, by its abnormally diminished muzzle, which gives its skull a quite different appearance to that of any known species.

Loncheres punctatus, sp. n.

Size medium. Fur spinous, the spines on the middle of the back about 19 millim. long and 1.3 millim. broad. General colour pale ferruginous, punctulated with white, the head and limbs greyer. The rufous of the back is due to the hairs, which are reddish terminally, with greyer bases. Spines of back greyish white basally, their tips either all black or black broadly tipped with white, the white-tipped spines being most numerous posteriorly, and prominently contrasting with the general colour. Head, both above and laterally, coarsely mixed black and white. Ears with a few fine blackish hairs on their edges and a small tuft of whitish hairs on the antitragus; an indistinct patch behind their posterior bases white. Sides coarsely mixed whitish grey. Under surface throughout white, with a slight tinge of buffy, the line of demarcation well marked. Inner side of limbs white, outer grizzled grey; metacarpals grey; metatarsals grey externally, white internally; digits whitish. Tail of medium length, rather thinly haired, the scales showing through; uniformly brown, scarcely or not lighter below.

Skull with the nasals just about equalling the premaxillary processes behind; frontal region flattened, the supraorbital ridges very broadly expanded; pterygoid processes narrow, not spatulate.

Dimensions of the type (an adult male, measured by the collector in the flesh):—

Head and body 236 millim.; tail 233; hind foot s. u. 34; ear 20.

Skull: basilar length 46·3; occipito-nasal length 58·5; greatest breadth 28·5; nasals $17 \times 6\cdot5$; interorbital breadth 15; palate length from henselion 25; palatal foramina $6 \times 1\cdot8$; length of upper molar series (crowns) 12·8.

Hab. Caicara, Orinoco.

Type B.M. no. 98. 12. 1. 18. Original number 11039. Collected July 2, 1898, by Geo. K. & Stella M. Cherrie. Three specimens obtained, two adult and one young.

This fine species may be readily distinguished from others by the prominent white punctulation of the posterior back, due to the broad white tips to the spines in that region. It may prove to be most nearly allied to *L. semivillosus*, Geoff., from Colombia, which has, however, the back "tiqué de jaune" and other differences.

A bad skin, which has been in the Museum since 1852, I also refer provisionally to *L. punctatus*. It was said to have come from Caracas.

Peramys brevicaudatus orinoci, subsp. n.

Much paler than in the typical form, coloured more nearly as in *P. dimidiatus*. Fur short and velvety, about 5 millim. long on the back. Upper surface from nose to rump pale grey, near "olive-grey" or "smoke-grey" of Ridgway. Sides of head and body ferruginous, this colour extending from the bases of the whiskers along the sides of the head and neck to flanks, and down to the wrists and ankles; at the anterior base of the ear it extends further dorsally than elsewhere, so as to form a ferruginous patch on the head at the back of the ear. Under surface pale buffy, not sharply defined, the hairs dark slaty at their bases. Upper surface of hands and feet blackish brown. Tail furry and dull rufous for its basal half-inch above, the rest thinly haired, blackish.

Skull apparently not distinguishable from that of *P. b. typicus*.

Dimensions of the type (a slightly immature male, measured in the flesh by collector):—

Head and body 111 millim.*; tail 75*; hind foot s. u. 18; ear 17.

Skull: basal length 29; greatest breadth 17; nasals $14\cdot5 \times 5$; combined length of *ms.*¹⁻³ 5·8.

Hab. Caicara, Orinoco.

Type B.M. no. 98. 12. 1. 22. Collected Aug. 10, 1898, by Geo. K. & Stella M. Cherrie. Original number 11100.

* Judging by the skin, I should have considered the body rather longer and the tail rather shorter than the above; but I think it best to accept Mr. Cherrie's measurements as they stand.

This is so evidently a local form of the Guianan Red-sided Opossum that, much as it differs in colour, it seems best for the present to regard it merely as a subspecies of that animal.

Peramys rubidus, sp. n.

Size, proportions, and cranial characters about as in *P. brevicaudatus*, though the muzzle is slightly more slender. Colour uniformly chestnut-rufous all over above and on the sides, the head rather brighter rufous, and the posterior back rather darker. Belly dull buffy grey, the hairs greyish brown basally, dull buffy terminally. Outer side of limbs and upper surface of hands and feet dull rufous. Tail also rufous throughout.

Dimensions of the type (an adult male, measured in skin):—

Head and body (evidently stretched) 160 millim.; tail 64; hind foot s. u. (wet) 18; ear (wet) 13.

Skull: greatest breadth 19.4; nasals 18×5.7 ; interorbital breadth 6.6; palate, length from gnathion 20, breadth 11.6; combined length of *ms.*¹⁻³ 5.9. Lower jaw: back of condyle to tip of first incisor 23.

Hab. Bahia.

Type B.M. no. 55. 11. 26. 9.

This species is founded on the skin from Bahia referred to *P. brevicaudatus* in the 'Catalogue of Marsupials,' colour-characters being at that date thought of less importance than they have since proved to be.

XXII.—*Descriptions of some new Species of Napeogenes.*

By F. D. GODMAN, F.R.S.

Napeogenes aster, sp. n.

N. stella, Hew., similis, sed alis anticis costa ad basin nigra, alis ambabus obscurioribus et punctis submarginalibus minutioribus.

Hab. Ecuador (*O. T. Baron*).

I have three specimens of this insect, which is very closely allied to *N. stella*, as stated above. It differs in having the outer half of both wings darker, which clearly distinguishes it.